

the 2021 Guam Department of Education (GDOE) Teacher of the Year, and further recognize him for continuing his reign as the 2022 GDOE Teacher of the Year. Dr. Santiago is an exemplary teacher whose commitment to service and devotion to community have and continue to inspire our youth, foster great leadership, and expand opportunities for our island students to lead successful lives.

The Teacher of the Year Program is the oldest and most prestigious national honors program focused on recognizing excellence in teaching. Providing a platform for highlighting both the extraordinary work and dedication of educators across the country and the importance of quality education in the futures of our youth, island, and nation, this program has uniquely directed community accolades to outstanding teachers in Guam since 1969. Following a rigorous nomination, evaluation, and observation process, Dr. Santiago was awarded the honor from among six finalists.

Dr. Santiago first discovered his passion for teaching when he took on roles as an instructor at cultural dance academies and a local fitness organization. Embracing his calling to help others on their personal paths of achievement, he navigated an extensive teaching career that has resulted in what is now 27 years with GDOE. In 1993, Dr. Santiago earned his Bachelor of Arts in Secondary Education from the University of Guam. He then went on to earn his master's and doctoral degrees in education and educational leadership from the University of Portland and Argosy university respectively. Today, Dr. Santiago celebrates over 15 years of service to students and colleagues as a cultural dance and journalism teacher at Agueda I. Johnston Middle School.

As demonstrated by his countless achievements, Dr. Santiago has consistently gone above and beyond his duties within the school system. In addition to collaborative curriculum and intervention development for holistic student success, Dr. Santiago has served as an in-house mentor for new teachers, coordinated cultural events for his school community, and successfully trained a school choir to earn 3 gold medals in a CHamoru language competition. Further, he is a trailblazing force that has created curricula for Cultural Arts and Dance for all secondary grade levels, introduced a new method to simultaneously teach cultural dance to both face-to-face and online learners amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and developed a new CHamoru language program with support from local government agencies. Most impressive, however, is his personal undertaking to establish deeper understanding and awareness of cultural concepts as an inherent part of Guam's public education.

On behalf of the People of Guam, I would like to extend a sincere congratulations to Dr. Benjamin Santiago. His combined approach to advocate for both students and culture both challenges the traditional definitions of learning and success within the four walls of a classroom and better equips our youth to pursue any endeavor they dare to dream. Dr. Santiago's perseverance, ingenuity, and zeal to secure the best for our students encapsulates the limitless potential available to communities that work together in service of each other, and I wish him the best on the rest of his professional journey.

MARVIN RANDLE RETIREMENT

HON. BETH VAN DUYN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Ms. VAN DUYN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Marvin Randle, the former mayor of Irving. Marvin lives every day, from his time as Mayor to serving Oak View Baptist Church for over 65 years, wanting to make this city better. He is always looking for ways to get more involved and lend a hand. Marvin's Irving legacy, beyond dedicated service, is one filled with smiles, kindness, and generosity. He is beloved for his fish fries for Irving Heritage Society and hamburger cook-outs to support Irving Police Department.

As one of Irving's proudest champions, he has spent his life in the city he loves, growing his family business here, and raising his children to live their lives with the same sense of community and dedication to public service.

Under his leadership, the Irving Arts Board was established, giving young artists in our city the support they need. He also saw the beauty in our city and during his tenure started the Tourist and Convention Bureau, making Irving a destination city to millions.

Marvin is a proud small business owner, founding Irving Counter Top in 1962 and creating over 1,200 jobs for North Texans. Irving Counter Top's success has enabled Marvin to support and sponsor numerous sports teams and charity organizations. While serving as President of Irving Homebuilders Association, Chairman of Irving Centennial Committee, President of Dallas Area Homebuilders, and a Member of the Texas Municipal League, many groups benefit from Marvin's leadership across our community.

Marvin and his wife, Bobbie are longtime friends and mentors. It is an honor to help celebrate such a full and impactful career and legacy, as Marvin retires this month. I thank Marvin for his great contributions to our local government and the impact he has made, as he helps shape our community.

RECOGNIZING MAYOR KAREN ALEXANDER

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor Karen Alexander of Salisbury, North Carolina, for her leadership to both the City of Salisbury and the North Carolina League of Municipalities.

For over a century, the North Carolina League of Municipalities has worked tirelessly to advance the interests of member cities and towns across the state. This past year, the League tasked Mayor Alexander with leading its 35-member Board of Directors as their President.

Public service and leadership are nothing new to Mayor Alexander. Ever since she was elected a Salisbury City Councilwoman in 2013, she has been a pervasive force in her hometown's municipal government. In her roles on the city council, Mayor Alexander has responsibly pursued revitalization efforts to

prepare the historic town for future challenges while simultaneously leaning into its rich heritage. Her efforts to attract new businesses, restore downtown building facades, and incentivize urban revitalization have fostered a renaissance of local pride and community cohesion throughout the city. I personally have had the immense pleasure of working alongside Mayor Alexander. In witnessing her work, I have been impressed by her sharp mind, perceptive instincts, and enormous heart.

During her tenure as League President, Mayor Alexander has been instrumental in developing new and creative ways for the League to advocate for North Carolina's cities and towns. Under her direction during the height of the global COVID-19 pandemic, the League has witnessed record-high event attendance thanks to Mayor Alexander's leadership in rolling out expanded online tools and webinars. Other contributions Mayor Alexander has made to the League are more tangible. As an architect by trade, Mayor Alexander was uniquely positioned to play a pivotal role in rebuilding the League's office space. Following a devastating fire in 2017 that consumed their longtime office buildings in Raleigh, the League tapped Mayor Alexander to serve on their building committee. Under her guidance as President, plans are being set in motion to develop a new facility to ensure North Carolina's cities and towns have a permanent home for extraordinary advocacy.

Madam Speaker, please join me in thanking Mayor Karen Alexander for her generous spirit and invaluable management. Both the City of Salisbury and the North Carolina League of Municipalities have benefited immensely from her years of impactful service. I am sure they both will be blessed by the fruits of her leadership for years to come.

HONORING MIKE MURASE

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 14, 2022

Ms. WATERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Mike Murase for his outstanding service on behalf of people of color, women, young people, seniors, and other disadvantaged members of society. Later today, the Little Tokyo Service Center in downtown Los Angeles will honor Mike Murase upon his retirement.

Mike Murase has been an activist leader in the Japanese American national civil rights movement for more than 50 years.

Mr. Murase moved from Japan to Los Angeles when he was just 9 years old after multiple visits to Hiroshima with his parents to witness the destruction of the world's first atomic bomb; visits which had a profound effect upon his social activism for the rest of his life. Mr. Murase was an early opponent of U.S. involvement in the Vietnam conflict and was a leader in Asian American opposition to the war.

He co-founded *Gidra*, a landmark Japanese American Movement publication, when he was an undergraduate at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), where he also helped create the Asian American Studies Center.